

**NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 451 of 1994**

**324.43517 Hunting by minor child; order establishing mentored youth hunting program.**

Sec. 43517. (1) A parent or legal guardian of a minor child shall not permit or allow the minor child to hunt game under the authority of a license issued under this part except under 1 of the following conditions:

(a) The minor child hunts only on land upon which a parent or guardian is regularly domiciled or a parent or guardian, or another individual at least 18 years old authorized by a parent or guardian, accompanies the minor child. This subdivision does not apply under any 1 of the following circumstances:

(i) The license is an apprentice license.

(ii) The minor child is less than 14 years old and the license is a license to hunt deer, bear, or elk with a firearm.

(iii) The minor child is less than 10 years old.

(b) If the license is an apprentice license, a parent or guardian, or another individual at least 21 years old authorized by a parent or guardian, who is licensed to hunt that game under a license other than an apprentice license accompanies the minor child. In addition, if the minor child is less than 14 years old and the apprentice license is a license to hunt deer, bear, or elk with a firearm, the minor child shall hunt only on private property.

(c) If the minor child is less than 14 years old and the license is a license to hunt deer, bear, or elk with a firearm, the minor child hunts only on private property and a parent or guardian, or another individual authorized by a parent or guardian who is at least 18 years old, accompanies the minor child. This subdivision does not apply if the license is an apprentice license or if the minor child is less than 10 years old.

(d) If the minor child is less than 10 years old, the minor hunts only with a mentor in compliance with the mentored youth hunting program established by the commission under subsection (2).

(2) Within 1 year after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection, the commission shall issue an order under section 40113a establishing a mentored youth hunting program. The order shall provide for at least all of the following:

(a) A mentor shall be at least 21 years of age before participating in the mentored youth hunting program.

(b) A mentor shall possess a valid license to hunt, other than an apprentice license, before engaging in any mentored youth hunting program.

(c) An individual shall not be a mentor unless he or she presents proof of previous hunting experience in the form of a previous hunting license, other than an apprentice license, or certification of completion of training in hunter safety issued to the individual by this state, another state, a province of Canada, or another country.

**History:** Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 280, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2006;—Am. 2006, Act 282, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2006;—Am. 2011, Act 109, Eff. Sept. 1, 2011.

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